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(54) Bottles for lotions

(57) A bottle for massaging lotion, gel or cream is provided on respective exterior faces thereof with an array of protuberances (28A, 28B) which are suitable for massaging the human body. The bottle is suitably formed of semi-rigid plastics material and is sealed with a cap (13) which by virtue of the trapped air and lotion in the bottle ensures that the bottle may be used as massager. The protuberances (28A, 28B) of the respective faces may differ in size and/or shape and/or spacing to enable the massaging to be varied and serrated gripping surfaces (27) may be provided on a waisted mid-portion of the bottle.

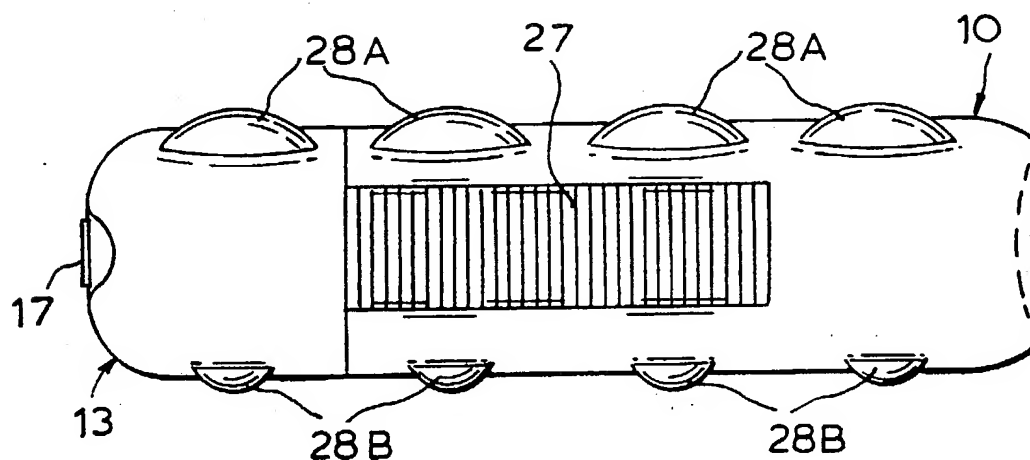


FIG. 2.

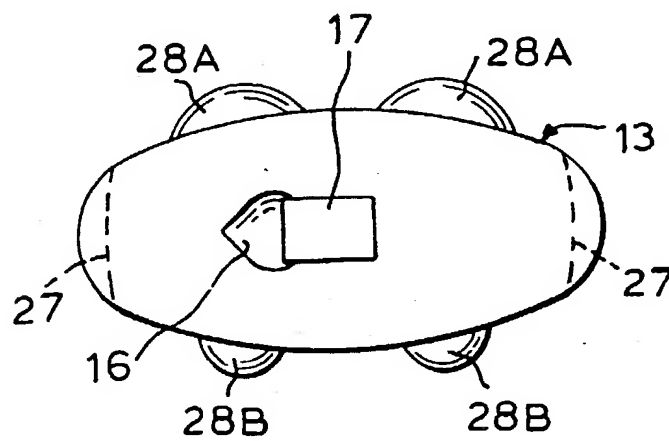


FIG. 1.

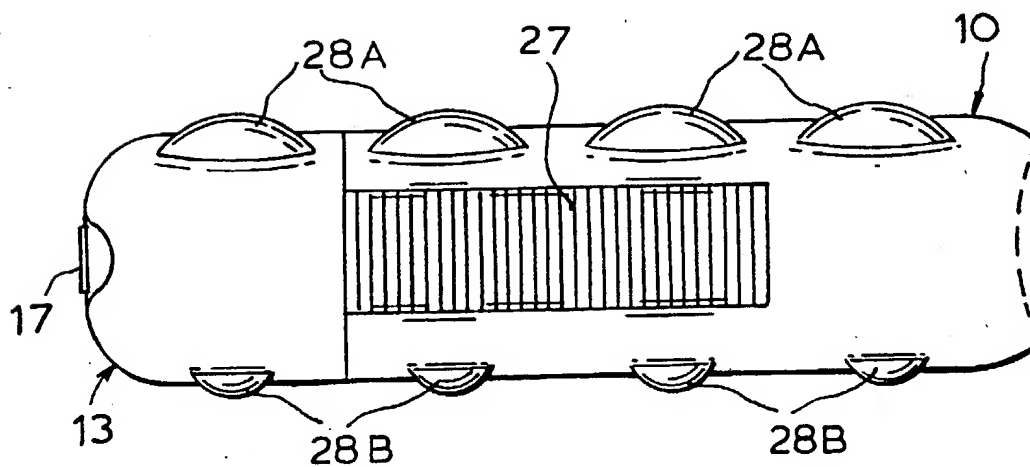


FIG. 2.

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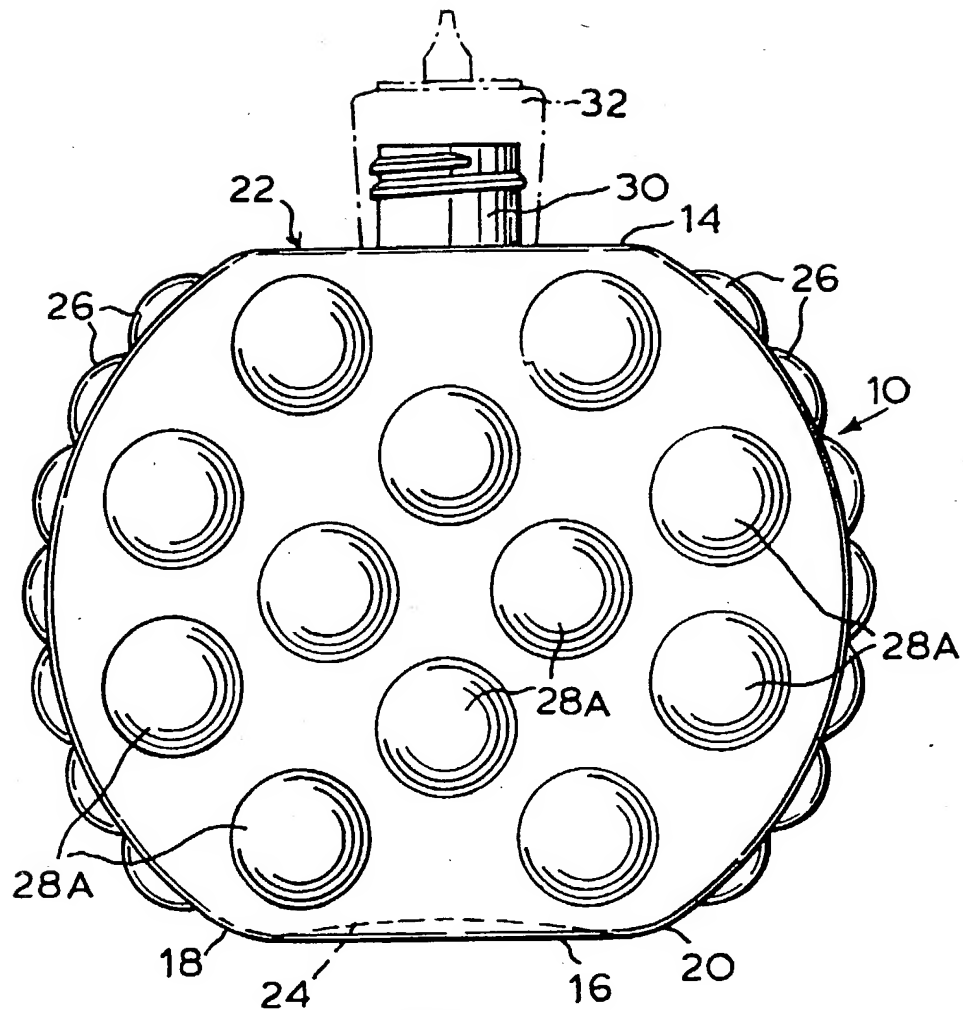


FIG. 5.

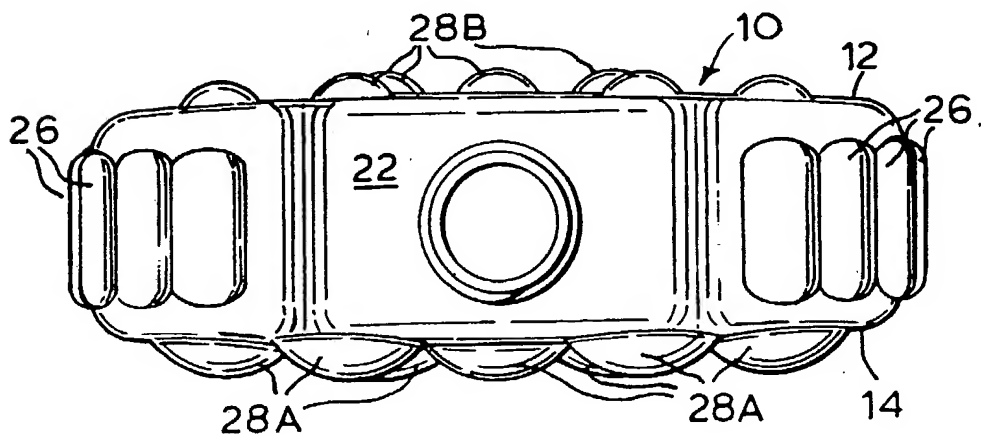


FIG. 6.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PACKAGING OF TOILETRIES

This invention relates to an improved package for toiletries such as a massaging lotion, gel or cream.

It is known e.g. from an article appearing in the May 1987 issue of "ELLE" that so called cellulite can be reduced by massage. Creams, soaps and lotions for this purpose are available under the trade names BIOTHERM and ELANCYL.

The Biotherm product has a separate tube of gel and a massager in the form of a glove or brush formed with protuberances by which the body may be vigorously massaged as the gel is applied. In the Elancyl product a cake of solid soap is trapped in a massager which has protuberances on it.

Other massagers for general body tone-up are known, as is a massager product comprising a bottle of semi-rigid plastics material which has protuberances formed on one face thereof. The bottle contains a massaging lotion which may be applied to the protuberances to enable the bottle to be used as a massager when held by a handle. However, the complex shape resulting from the incorporation of a handle into the bottle tends to increase the cost of manufacture and also results in wasted space within the outer cardboard packaging.

An object of the present invention is to provide a simplified bottle for toiletries which enables the above disadvantages to be alleviated.

Accordingly the invention provides a bottle for toiletries such as massaging lotion, gel or cream, the bottle having on respective faces of its exterior an array of protuberances which are suitable for massaging the
5 body, the bottle, when charged with or partially full of said lotion, gel or cream and sealed with a cap, being sufficiently rigid to be used as a massager and being capable of being hand-held with a selected one of said arrays of protuberances in contact with the body.

10 Since the bottle in accordance with the invention does not require a handle, an extra face of the bottle is available for a further array of protuberances. The protuberances of one array conveniently differ from the protuberances of the other array in size and/or shape
15 and/or spacing and thereby enable the massage to be varied by selecting a different protuberance-carrying face of the bottle to be rubbed against the body.

Furthermore, because the palm of the user's hand is in contact with a face of the bottle when it is used as a
20 massager, slight changes in pressure in the bottle resulting from varying degrees of resistance to the massaging action of the protuberances can be sensed by the palm. This enables the massaging pressure to be varied according to the texture of the underlying tissues.

25 Embodiments of the invention will now be described by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a bottle in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the bottle shown in Figure 1;

5 Figure 3 is a plan view of the bottle of Figures 1 and 2;

Figure 4 is a similar plan view but with the cap 13 of the bottle removed;

Figure 5 is a plan view of a further bottle in
10 accordance with the invention; and

Figure 6 is a front elevation of the bottle shown in Figure 5.

The bottle in accordance with the invention which is shown in Figures 1 to 4 comprises a massager bottle
15 provided with a slideable removable cap 13 as indicated by arrows X in Figure 4. As can be seen in Figure 4, bottle 10 is provided with a neck portion 18 and a nozzle 19 in the neck is normally closed by a hinge flap 17 in cap 13 when the latter is in place on the bottle. The free edge
20 of flap 17 overlies a recess 16 in the cap to enable massage gel stored in the bottle to be squeezed out and applied to the skin of the user. The bottle and cap are suitably formed from a semi-rigid plastics material such as polythene of approximately 1 mm wall thickness. The
25 massaging lotion is typically applied to the hips and thighs or any other area of the body in which cellulite

has formed and the lotion is then rubbed in, using the bottle as a massager. To this end, a first array of domed, button-like nodules or protuberances 28A is provided on one face of the bottle and cap, and a second
5 array of slightly smaller nodules or protuberances 28B (as shown in Figures 1 and 2) is provided on the opposite face. On closing the flaps 17, the air and remaining massage lotion trapped within the bottle ensure that both its major surfaces are sufficiently rigid to support the
10 protuberances 28A and 28B when the latter are rubbed over the skin and the user can then use the bottle as a massager, with either array 28A or array 28B of protuberances being used to rub the massaging lotion into the tissues of the user, according to the degree of
15 massaging required. Thus, for example, the smaller nodules can be used to massage (in a circular motion) flabby body areas like tummy and waist, and the larger nodules on muscle areas. The massaging lotion may be of a known type, and may for example contain plant extracts
20 such as butcher's broom, horse chestnut, lavender, cyprus and geranium for example, all of which are believed to stimulate blood flow through the capillaries.

To assist in gripping the bottle when it is used as a massager, two serrated gripping surfaces 27 (as best
25 seen in Figures 3 and 4) are provided on the opposite narrower sides of the bottle at a waisted mid-portion thereof. The size of the bottle is such that a woman's

hand may span the two gripping surfaces 27 and grasp the waisted portion of the bottle without difficulty. The protuberances on that face of the bottle which is out of contact with the skin being massaged tends to project
5 between the fingers holding the bottle and assist in preventing the bottle from slipping out of the user's grasp.

In the embodiment shown in Figures 5 and 6 of the drawings, a bottle 10 has a pair of generally planar faces
10 12, 14 each generally circular in side view and bounded by a pair of lines 14, 16 defining a top and a base. The faces 12, 14 are connected by curved walls 18, 20, a top wall 22 and a 25 base wall 24, all of relatively small depth so that the bottle has the general dimensions of a
15 pad or cake. In size, the bottle is dimensioned to fit conveniently a woman's hand and to be gripped firmly between the fingers and thumb. For this purpose the walls 18, 20 are formed with protuberances 26 facilitating grip. The faces 12, 14 are formed with protuberances 28 for
20 body massage. In the embodiment shown these take the form of circular domed button-like protuberances, but other geometric shapes, such as oblong or rectangular ribs, can be used, depending on the massage benefit and/or effect desired. Further, the protuberances on one face 12
25 can have different sizes, spacing and/or shapes with respect to one another, as well as those on the other face 14.

The face 22 is formed with a neck 30 closed by a screw cap 32. The bottle is of moulded plastics material such as soft polyethylene about 1 mm wall thickness and when empty is relatively flexible. However, when the
5 bottle is charged, or partly charged with composition or even wholly empty, it acquires sufficient rigidity to be used as a massager, while retaining a degree of flexibility that enables it to contour to the body.

In another aspect the invention provides a bottle of
10 massaging lotion, gel or cream in which at least one array of protuberances suitable for massaging are provided on a face thereof, the bottle having a waisted mid-portion which can be grasped by the user when massaging with said array of protuberances.

CLAIMS:

1. A bottle for toiletries such as massaging lotion, gel or cream, the bottle having on respective faces of its exterior an array of protuberances which are suitable for
5 massaging the body, the bottle, when charged with or partially full of said lotion, gel or cream and sealed with a cap, being sufficiently rigid to be used as a massager and being capable of being hand-held with a selected one of said arrays of protuberances in contact
10 with the body.
2. A bottle as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the protuberances of one said array differ in size and/or shape and/or spacing from the protuberances of another said array.
- 15 3. A bottle as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 having two such arrays on opposite faces thereof and having a gripping surface extending between said opposite faces around the periphery thereof, said gripping surface having projection and/or recess configurations which are distinct
20 from said protuberances.
4. A bottle as claimed in any preceding claim, which has a waisted mid-portion which can be grasped by the user's hand.
5. A bottle as claimed in Claim 4 as dependent on Claim
25 3, wherein said gripping surface is a serrated surface which is formed on said waisted mid-portion.
6. A bottle as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein

said cap has two exterior faces which are contiguous with said respective faces and which have protuberances thereon suitable for massaging.

7. A bottle as claimed in any preceding claim, which is
5 formed of semi-rigid plastics material.

8. A bottle of massaging lotion, gel or cream substantially as described hereinabove with reference to Figures 1 and 2 or Figures 3 and 4 or Figures 5 and 6 of the accompanying drawings.

Amendments to the claims have been filed as follows

CLAIMS:

1. A bottle provided with a cap and containing massaging lotion, gel or cream, the bottle having a plurality of arrays of protuberances on respective faces
5 of its exterior, said arrays of protuberances being suitable for massaging the human body, the bottle being capable of being hand-held with a selected one of said arrays of protuberances in contact with the body, the bottle, when sealed by said cap, forming a closed
10 container which is of suitable rigidity for use as a massager.
2. A bottle as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the protuberances of one said array differ in size and/or shape and/or spacing from the protuberances of another
15 said array.
3. A bottle as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 having two such arrays on opposite faces thereof and having a gripping surface extending between said opposite faces around the periphery thereof, said gripping surface having
20 projection and/or recess configurations which are distinct from said protuberances.
4. A bottle as claimed in any preceding claim, which has a waisted mid-portion which can be grasped by the user's hand.
- 25 5. A bottle as claimed in Claim 4 as dependent on Claim 3, wherein said gripping surface is a serrated surface which is formed on said waisted mid-portion.
6. A bottle as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein

said cap has two exterior faces which are contiguous with said respective faces and which have protuberances thereon suitable for massaging.

7. A bottle as claimed in any preceding claim, which is
5 formed of semi-rigid plastics material.

8. A bottle of massaging lotion, gel or cream substantially as described hereinabove with reference to Figures 1 and 2 or Figures 3 and 4 or Figures 5 and 6 of the accompanying drawings.